

12/

SECRET

FRP: , , , , , , ,

STAFF

ACTION: CI/OC-2 (194) INFO: ODPD-D, RF, VR, FILE, CIDORECORD, SE/IO,
SE/BRP-2, SE/RBI, SE/REG, SE/USSR-3, C/CI, CI/REG, (14/W)

82 9983769 ASR

PAGE 001
TOR: 301031Z NOV 82IN 9983769
14360

SECRET 300824Z NOV 82 STAFF

CITE 14360

TO: DIRECTOR INFO

WNINTEL TAZZA CKLEG

SUBJECT: SOVIET ALLEGATION OF PNPEAK ROLE IN WAR CRIMES ACQUITTAL

1. DURING A MEETING BETWEEN U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS (OSI) ATTORNEYS AND SOVIET PROCURACY OFFICIALS IN RIGA, LATVIA ON 19 NOV 82 A SOVIET OFFICIAL ALLEGED THAT PNPEAK MAY HAVE BEEN BEHIND THE RECENT ACQUITTAL IN THE ((LEIPENES)) WAR CRIMES PROSECUTION IN A FEDERAL COURT. THE OFFICIAL WHO RAISED THE ISSUE WAS NIKOLAY GRIGOR'EVICH ((ZHUKOV)), U.S.S.R. PROCURACY, KGB SECTION, BALTIC STATES AND BYELORUSSIA. HE NOTED U.S. PRESS REPORTS THAT THE DEFENDANT HAD AT ONE TIME WORKED FOR PNPEAK AND WAS NOW BEING PROTECTED BY HIS FORMER EMPLOYER. THE HEAD OF THE U.S. GROUP, OSI DIRECTOR, ALLAN A. RYAN, SAID THAT THE PRESS REPORTS WERE NOT CORRECT AND THAT THE OUTCOME OF THE TRIAL WAS BASED SOLELY ON THE JUDGES' EVALUATION OF THE EVIDENCE.

2. ZHUKOV'S COMMENT DID NOT FOLLOW NATURALLY FROM THE MATTERS UNDER DISCUSSION AND IT IS LIKELY THAT HE WAS SIMPLY INTENT ON RAISING THE ISSUE AT SOME POINT DURING THE CONFERENCE TO PROBE RYAN'S REACTION. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT THE REMARK WAS DIRECTED AT

RYAN SAID LATER THAT RAISING THE ISSUE EVEN IN PASSING AT A MEETING OF THIS TYPE WAS OUT OF CHARACTER FOR THE SOVIET SIDE.

3. NO FILE. DECL OADR DRV HUM 4-82 ALL SECRET.

END OF MESSAGE

SECRET

FOR COORDINATION WITH

DoJ/OSI

OG/CFS

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2005

RECORD COPY